



## Suffolk Cadet Squadron VII

414 W. Sunrise Hwy, #297  
Patchogue, NY 11772



4 April 2008

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### Long Island Group Cadet Awarded 4 Year U.S. Army ROTC Scholarship

Cadet Senior Master Sergeant Michelle Mudge, of the Suffolk County Cadet Squadron 7 and a Commack High school senior, has been awarded a full U.S. Army 4 year ROTC scholarship to attend the University Of North Dakota. As part of the scholarship offering cadet Mudge has also been awarded a \$35,000 grant to pay for flight lessons to become a helicopter pilot. Upon graduation, Mudge will be commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army's Aviation Branch and will attend Aviation Officer's Basic Course (OBC) at Fort Rucker, Alabama.

Cadet Mudge is currently the squadron 7 cadet recruiting officer and was a member of the color guard team which competed in the Long Island Group Cadet Competition in February. Michelle's interest in flying led her to join the Civil Air Patrol two years ago and in less than 18 months she has risen to her current rank and before graduating from Commack H.S. has vowed to achieve the rank of c/2d Lt. "Michelle is a great cadet and a great young person" noted her squadron commander Captain Darren Cioffi, "she is a role model for other cadets to follow and we're very proud of her at squadron 7."

***University of North Dakota ROTC Program*** The Fighting Sioux Battalion was first envisioned in 1888 by Colonel Homer B. Sprague, a former Union Army officer and the second President of the University of North Dakota. The UND ROTC Fighting Sioux Battalion as we know it today was formed in April of 1918. In 1946, Air Force ROTC formed its own ranks separate from the Army ROTC. The Helicopter Flight Training Program, formerly known as the Air Battle Captains program, was born in the late 80's. Today, over one hundred years after it's initial conception, UND's Army ROTC program continues it's mission of molding young men and women into the fine leaders of the United States Army.

*Civil Air Patrol, the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force, is a nonprofit organization with almost 60,000 members nationwide. CAP performs 95 percent of continental U.S. inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center. Its volunteers also perform homeland security, disaster relief, and counter-drug missions at the request of federal, state, and local agencies. The members take a leading role in aerospace education and serve as mentors to the almost 25,000 young people currently participating in CAP cadet programs. CAP has been performing missions for America for more than 60 years.*

On the Web: [www.ner.cap.gov](http://www.ner.cap.gov)

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